

Sacramento Junior League, the Sacramento/El Dorado Medical Association Alliance, the History Museum, and the Sacramento Symphony League. She also chaired the Advisory Board for California State Historic Park, and was a Mayor's appointee on the Downtown District Study. Muriel's close involvement with the diversity of community organizations is a testament to her unyielding commitment to bring about positive changes to her community and improve the quality of life of her fellow citizens.

In 1992, Muriel Johnson was first elected to the Sacramento County Board of Supervisors. Muriel represents approximately 250,000 people living in the County's Third District. The Third District includes the communities of Arden/Arcade, Carmichael, Campus Commons, East Sacramento, College Glen, College Greens, East foothills Farms and a portion of North Highlands. During her tenure, Muriel has served as the Chair of the Board of Supervisors in 1995 and 1999.

In addition to her duties as County Supervisor, Muriel has also served admirably as the Chair, President and Board Member of the following organizations since first being elected as supervisor: Sacramento Area Council of Governments, Sacramento Public Library Authority, California State Association of Counties, Sacramento Area Flood Control Agency, Cable Commission, Sacramento Regional Sanitation District, Sacramento Regional Transit, Sacramento Air Quality Management District, and California's Elected Women's Association of Education and Research.

In recognition of her dedication to public service, Muriel is the rightful recipient of a number of community service awards including: the California Medical Association Alliance 1999 Member of the Year, the National Philanthropy Day Award for Outstanding Volunteer Fundraiser, the first E.A. Combatalade Community Service Award, Soroptimist Woman of the Year, the 1993 Business Volunteers for the Arts Award for Individual Service, the Women's Transportation Seminar 2002 Woman of the Year Award, the 2003 Shots for Tots Immunization Registry, and the 2003 American Society for Public Administration's Excellence in Public Arts Award.

Throughout her term as County Supervisor, Muriel Johnson has remained a steadfast supporter of neighborhood preservation, more efficient transportation, better air quality, health and welfare issues, sound economic development, better schools for our children and flood control. There is no doubt that every one of Muriel's constituents has benefited in one way or another as a result of her hard work, dedication, and vision.

Mr. Speaker, as Muriel's friends, family, and colleagues gather to celebrate her great career and acknowledgement as Sacramentan of the Year, I am honored to pay tribute to one of Sacramento's most respected leaders. Muriel's continuous leadership is a true testament to public service. Although her career in public service may soon be over, her involvement in community service is, fortunate for us, far from over. I ask all of my colleagues to join with me in wishing Muriel Johnson continued success in all her future endeavors.

#### TRIBUTE TO JOY DEFENBAUGH, RIVERSIDE CITY COUNCIL

### HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 3, 2004*

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to an individual whose dedication and contributions to the community of Riverside, CA are exceptional. Riverside has been fortunate to have dynamic and dedicated community leaders who willingly and unselfishly give their time and talent and make their communities a better place to live and work. Joy Defenbaugh is one of these individuals.

Joy has represented Ward 3 of the city of Riverside for 12 years and has continually worked for the interests of her constituency. Her area of representation includes the Magnolia Center and the Riverside Municipal Airport.

Joy served as chair of the Development Committee and served on the Finance and Government Affairs Committees. She is a member and past chair of the March Joint Powers Commission for the reuse of March Air Reserve Base. Her commitment to the improvement of the city of Riverside has been steadfast.

Early in her political career, Joy recognized the diversity and cultural differences within the community. At the direction of Colin Powell, Joy spearheaded the Common Ground Task Force which brought different groups of people in the community together regardless of ethnic background and cultural differences in order to relieve tension within the community.

In 1998, a former Riverside City employee broke into the Riverside City Council Chamber during a meeting and seriously injured several people. Despite this incident, Joy persevered and continued public service.

Joy's tireless passion for community service has contributed immensely to the betterment of the community of Riverside, CA. She has had a commitment to the economic growth and has demonstrated leadership by recognizing an immediate need for community initiatives such as railroad crossings and the Vision for Today and Tomorrow. Her patriotic spirit for military and country is admirable. She has been the heart and soul of many community initiatives and I am proud to call her a fellow community member, American and friend. I know that many community members are grateful for her service and salute her as she retires.

#### CELEBRATING SCHOOL BOARD APPRECIATION MONTH

### HON. JEB HENSARLING

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 3, 2004*

Mr. HENSARLING. Mr. Speaker, in the month of January, across the country, the State of Texas and in the Fifth Congressional District, we celebrate School Board Recognition Month, to acknowledge the hard work of school board members and thank them for their valuable service in the education of our children.

During School Board Recognition Month we honor the administrators, staff, and volunteers who work to promote academic excellence and provide a safe learning environment for our students.

School board members are responsible for fulfilling one of the most important roles in our society—helping develop young men and women into the future leaders of our nation's economy, government, community, and houses of worship.

I would like to extend my most sincere thanks to all school board members in the Fifth Congressional District of Texas for their continued dedication and hard work. Their contribution to the education of our children is truly helping to shape the future of our communities and our Nation.

#### HONORING ALICE A. HUFFMAN

### HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 3, 2004*

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a great leader, a woman of distinction, and a good friend, Alice Huffman. This month marks Alice's 30th year of leadership in her efforts for equality and justice. The ninth Congressional District salutes and thanks Alice for her tireless and spirited service.

Alice Huffman was elected president of the California State Conference of the NAACP in October 1999, where she is the first woman to hold this post. In this role, Alice leads 67 local branches, and more than 30 college chapters and youth units. With her leadership, they are continuing to fight for civil rights and equality for people of color all over California. In 2002, she was elected to the NAACP National Board of Directors, representing Region I.

Her past experience includes serving as an appointee in Governor Jerry Brown's administration where she was Chief Deputy Director of the State Parks and Recreation Department and, later his Director of the Office of Economic Opportunity, a cabinet level position. Ms. Huffman has also served as the Associate Executive Director for politics for the California Teachers Association and State President of the Black American Political Association of California.

Alice is founder and president/CEO of A.C. Public Affairs, Inc., a public affairs firm that specializes in public and grass roots advocacy. She served on the Democratic National Committee as the cochair for the Site-Selection Committee for the 2004 Democratic Convention. She is also a member of the Rules Committee for the California Democratic Party. Currently, Ms. Huffman serves on the board for Capitol Focus, as well as serving on T-CAP, which is a consumer advisory panel to SBC/Pacific Bell. In addition, she serves on the "Commission for One California," a forum for diversity and understanding headed by Lieutenant Governor Bustamante. She has recently been appointed to Assembly Speaker Herb Wesson's Commission on Police Conduct.

Ms. Huffman graduated from the University of California, Berkeley with honors in Social/Cultural Anthropology. She then advanced her studies at the University of Pennsylvania, University of California, Davis, and University of